

The Oconee County Library Board and Committee met on January 29, 1975, at 10 a.m. at Walton Electric Membership Corporation. Eighteen members were present; Mrs. J.S. Ivy, Jr., chairman, presided.

A report was given on the monies received from all the projects sponsored to raise money for the construction of the new Oconee County Library. The Oconee County Centennial Festival held on the square in Watkinsville on October 26, 1974, netted \$3,381.20, the Oconee County Centennial Cookbook, \$1,838.80, the Sell-a-Brick, \$952.46, and the Neighborhood Appeal, \$1,585.29.

From the above four projects and from the historic prints, business donations, major gifts and memorials, and general contributions, a total of \$20,000.00 has been received thus far. Added to this is the \$5,000 gift from Governor Jimmy Carter's Emergency Fund and the \$20,000 allocated by the Oconee County Board of Commissioners for a total of \$45,000.00. The goal for the citizens of the county was \$75,000 in order to receive some amount in state matching funds. The deadline for state funds is March 30, 1975. The remaining funds, \$30,000.00, are needed to reach our goal by March 30. Mrs. Ivy emphasized that with the exception of the festival and the cookbook, the other projects are on going and need to be brought to a close by March 31, 1975. A list of the clubs and businesses who have already participated will be placed in the new library.

Miss Sarah Maret, director of Athens Regional Library, gave a report on grant proposals for public libraries in Georgia to be considered by the 1975 State Legislature. She urged members to attend State Legislature in Atlanta on March 2, 1975.

Mrs. Jean Holcomb, chairman of the Map Committee, reported that the new Oconee County street map is in the process of being printed by Bill Kelly and will be available soon. She announced that gifts from Oconee State Bank and Poss' would cover the printing costs of the map.

Mrs. Kathryn Ames, consultant of Athens Regional Library, reported that she had finished writing the 20 page building program for the new Oconee County Library. The Program, a requirement for state funds, describes in detail the type of program and building needed for the new library. It will be submitted in February, 1975, to the state. An architect can be selected when the program is approved.

A recommendation was made to place a sign on Highway 53 to designate the library building site donated by the county. Mr. Roy Berry said that the county would erect the sign.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Mrs Swanton (Dowdy-Patte) called a meeting of the ~~County~~ Library Board for 9:30 a.m. at the Courthouse. Five architectural firms, 2 from Athens and 3 from Atlanta were interviewed. From these interviews an architect was chosen to plan the DeKalb County Library. The preliminary plan or design must be in the State Office by Mar 26.

The firms were Head C. Campbell  
Albus, Without, Athens represented  
by Jim Williams and Cawdron,  
Smith-Martin, Atlanta, John Denney  
Atlanta represented by Ron Willis and John  
Pester, and Miles Sheppes of Atlanta -

Sheffer was selected by the Committee. He was to begin immediately to meet the dead line of May 26. - Mrs. Dan Moore

May 26 - Members present, Mrs. Drey, Mrs. Ben McStay, Mrs. Brady Lake, Mrs. Lucy Brown, Mrs. , Miss Martin, Mrs. James, Mrs. Kate McDonald, Mr. Berry - Mrs. Reba Hammond and Mr. Sanders came in late -

The Oconee County Library Board met on March 21, 1975, at 10 a.m. at the Courthouse with Mrs. J.S. Ivy, Jr., chairman, presiding.

Mr. Jim Bowers, treasurer, reported that the library had \$51,000 in the bank, including \$30,000.00 in savings certificates. Mr. Roy Berry, chairman of Oconee County Board of Commissioners, announced that the county would guarantee to the state that the Library Board would have its share of the matching funds, \$75.000, thus enabling the Library Board to meet March 31, 1975, deadline for state funds of \$75,000. The Library Board voted to express in writing its appreciation to Mr. Berry and the County Commissioners for their confidence in the new library.

The Library Board voted to sponsor a second fall festival and a reprinting of the cookbooks and to promote the furniture memorials and sale of maps and prints in order to raise the funds necessary to repay the county's loan. The Board also decided to send a representative to the April, 1975, Board of Education meeting to ask for support.

The Library Board voted to employ Miles Sheffer on a lump sum contract of \$10,000.00. The contract with Mr. Sheffer was signed by Mr. Sheffer, Mr. Berry, Miss Maret and Mrs. Ivy.

The Library Board approved the schematic drawings as submitted by Mr. Sheffer for development and submission to the state on Tuesday, March 25, 1975. The site development and location of the building on the site was discussed and will be decided before the preliminary drawings are completed. Mr. Berry stated that the county would provide grading of the site.

Mrs. Ivy, Miss Maret, Mrs. Ames and Mr. Sheffer will meet with Miss Lila Rice and Carlton Thaxton in Atlanta on March 25, 1975, to submit our application for state grant of \$75,000.00.

On April 22, 1975, the Oconee County Library Board met at 10:30 a.m. at the Courthouse. A quorem was present. Miles Sheffer, an architect, and several members of the Oconee County Library Committee were present.

Mrs. Ivy, chairman, announced that Lila Rice and Carlton Thaxton of Public Library Division of the State Board of Education approved our plans for the new library at a meeting in Atlanta on March 25, 1975. The State Board of Education at its April meeting also approved our request for funding and granted Oconee County \$75,000 for the new library. The next step will be the call for bidders with the opening of bids to be June 24, 1975. It was decided by common consent that the groundbreaking would be held after the contract for construction is awarded.

Mr. Sheffer presented the preliminary plans for the new Oconee County Library to the Board. After discussion, the Board approved the preliminary plans. Mr. Sheffer will now submit the preliminary plans to Lila Rice of the State next week for State's approval.

Plans were heard for the Oconee County Festival on Oct. 1, 1975, with Betty Dawson and Joyce Hardigree serving as coordinators.

The Oconee County Library Board and Committee met on July 22, 1975, at 10:15 a.m. at the Courthouse with Mrs. J.S. Ivy, Jr. presiding. A quorem was present.

A short meeting of the chairmen of various committees for the Oconee County Centennial Festival (Oct. 11, 1975) was held at 9:30 a.m. today preceding this meeting. A list of these chairmen are attached.

Mr. Miles Sheffer, architect, recommended to the Library Board that it award the contract for construction of the library to the Carroll Daniel Construction Company of Gainesville, the low bidder, with the alternatives suggested to original specifications for the contract sum of \$126,959.00. Budget for the library is attached.

The Library Committee voted unanimously to award the contract to Carroll Daniel Construction Company for the contract sum of \$126,959.00.

Mrs. Ivy noted that the cookbooks, maps and sketches are still being sold and that Festival plans are being made. Mrs. Ivy encouraged members to promote contributions and furniture memorials. During this meeting, there were films shown in the Courtroom to entertain the children. Mrs. Lizzie Jewell presented the Board with \$115.00 that she had raised for the Library.

At 10:45 a.m. the meeting was adjourned in order that everyone could go to the site of the new building on Highway 53 for the Groundbreaking at 11:00 a.m.

At 11:00 a.m. Mrs. Ivy introduced county officials (Berry, Sanders, Hardigree, Dawson, Hammond), library officials (Maret, Ames, Cofer, Mendenhall, Billie Brown, Library Boardmembers) state officials (Lila Rice and Paul Brown), architect, Sheffer, and contractor, Ed Daniel. Approximately 75 people were present.

Mrs. Ivy expressed appreciation to all who had worked so hard to have a new library in Oconee County. The Rev. Ray Howe led the group in prayer.

Mrs. Ivy invited all the children and adults who brought their shovels to help "break the ground." Construction is to begin immediately.

On September 26, 1975, at 10:00 a.m. at the Courthouse, the Oconee County Library Board met in a call meeting. A quorem was present. The Board, with Mrs. J.S. Ivy, Jr. presiding, interviewed representatives of three furniture companies for the purpose of deciding on furniture for the new Oconee County Library.

Mr. Howard Hellums of McGregor's, Athens, Mr. Joe Hart of Warden Furniture and Republic Shelving, Athens, and a representative from Myrtle Desk Company were each interviewed one at a time. (Each man was given time to present their funrniture display.)

After due consideration, the Board moved and unanimously voted to buy the furniture for the main reading room from Mr. Joe Hart and auditorium furniture from McGregor's. The lounge furniture will be decided on at a later date.

It was reported that the Festival Committee met on September 4, 1975, and plans are proceeding for Festival on October 11, 1975.